

5/021/031



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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APR 26 2001

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS AND MINING

April 9, 2001

Memorandum

To:

Cultural Resources	Minerals	Riparian
T & E Plants	Wild Horses	Flood Plain
T & E Animals and Wildlife	Range	Water Rights
VRM	Soils	Other

From: Ed Ginouves, Cedar City Field Office

Subject: **Site Examination Request**

Case Name: Wah Wah Mine (**new notice**)
Case Number: UTU-78619
Operator: Jimmy Hodges
Claims: UMC 367594, Wah Wah No. 1

Type: 43 CFR 3809, exploration / small surface mining operations

Date Received: April 9, 2001
Date Needed: 15 calender days or less

Legal Description: T. 31 S., R. 17 W., portions of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 23 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of section 24

Location Info: Iron County, Utah; on the northeast side of the Indian peak Range (Steamboat Mtn) near Sawmill Canyon. Access the site via the Rustler's Draw turnoff (S $\frac{1}{2}$ sec. 16, T. 31 S., R. 16 W.) from the Mt. Springs Wash Road.
BLM 1:100,000 Wah Wah South land status quadrangle;
USGS 7.5' Bible Spring quadrangle;
See attached project map.

Proposed Action: The operator is proposing exploration and surface extraction operations of red beryl, bixbyite, and topaz crystals from rhyolite host rock. This will likely be a long term disturbance with active operations during the non-winter months. Access to the site will use existing County road & jeep trail access to within ~0.75 miles of the mine site. A new access road will be created by selectively cutting trees to create a 12' width path; no grading of the new road will be required. Exploration and mining of the crystals from the ridgeline outcrop of rhyolite will require drilling and light blasting to fracture the in place rock which will then be excavated with a tracked excavator. Any valuable crystals found in the broken rock will be recovered using hand tools. The mine site will occupy no more than 1 acre. An access gate may be placed at the saddle in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 23 to control site access. New access road route and exterior corners of mine site have been marked by the operator.

Acreage Disturbed: About 2 acres. This operation will be required to post a financial security of \$6000 to secure reclamation, as required by 43 CFR 3809.552.

